

## TRAIL AMENITIES

**Gateway** - A trail system entrance recognizing symbolic features of the community and landscape character where it is located.

**Primary Staging Area/Gateway** - A trailhead including full parking facilities, trail linkages, signage, and rest area features.

**Secondary Staging Area** - A trailhead access point staging area, with smaller, scaled-back facilities.

**Transit Connection Node** - A public transit stop with access to the trail system at a neighborhood/transit/connector trail.

## POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Support of the trails Master Plan Initiate by formal adopted resolution by local Governments.
2. Local jurisdictions should work collaboratively with clearly defined Inter-governmental Agreements.
3. Leverage funding from a variety of sources through Capital Improvement Program (CIP) and bond funding programs along with flood control district and private development participation.

4. Initiate appropriate policy changes to allow public access on flood control and other state owned lands.
5. Establish a West Valley River Trails 'champion' by supporting grassroots - public supported efforts as partnerships.
6. Ensure consistency in trail system design throughout the entire corridor
7. Fulfill the vision of the Master Plan by following the Implementation Strategies Action Plan
8. Create an ongoing operational and maintenance program throughout the West Valley River Corridor.
9. Conduct evaluations of key programs, completed trail segments and on going processes for each phase of trail development.

## WANT MORE INFORMATION?

If you would like more information on the West Valley Multi-Modal Transportation Corridor Plan or a copy of the Master Plan, please contact Dawn M. Coomer at the Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG) at (602) 254-6300. You may also visit the MAG website at [www.mag.maricopa.gov](http://www.mag.maricopa.gov).



## WEST VALLEY RIVERS NEW RIVER & LOWER AGUA FRIA

## INTRODUCTION

The West Valley Multi-Modal Transportation Corridor Study Master Plan is part of a multiphase undertaking conducted through the efforts of the Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG), in cooperation with the Flood Control District of Maricopa County (FCDMC). The Master Plan encompasses the New River and Lower Agua Fria River (see map) and will serve as a recreational and alternative transportation trail amenity in the West Valley. The Master Plan includes several communities within the project area, including Avondale, Glendale, Peoria, Phoenix, and Maricopa County. Funding for the MAG project is provided through the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) and the Transportation Equity Act 21st Century (TEA-21) Transportation Enhancement Program. With the completion of the Master Plan, each community is encouraged to continue the process by finalizing design and building each segment of the 42-mile trail, as funding becomes available.

## PRIMARY PLAN CONCEPTS

- Establishes a regional planning framework for a 42-mile trail network for pedestrians, equestrians, bicyclists and other non-motorized trail users.
- Creates a universally accessible trail for a variety of users of different abilities and ages.
- Expands on the existing and planned river trail system to connect with existing trail linkages and all major public lands.
- Establishes a mechanism for the conservation of natural river resources.
- Manages future development by conserving open linear spaces and preserving wildlife habitats along the river corridor.
- Encourages an awareness for livable community design.
- Identifies a variety of funding mechanisms to implement the project for communities along the river corridor.
- Ensures consistent and uniform design for the development of a safe multi-modal trail.
- Creates consensus among communities and encourages regionalism.

# MASTER PLAN

## TRAIL TYPES

**Primary Trail** - A two-way, 10 to 12 foot wide asphalt or concrete paved shared-use pathway.

**Secondary Trail** - A two-way, 8-foot wide (minimum) hard-packed surface off-road trail serving as a linkage to the primary trail.

**Neighborhood/Transit/Connector Trail** - An 8-foot wide (minimum) paved series of trails, linking the primary trail to neighborhoods, schools, transit stops and park-and-ride facilities.

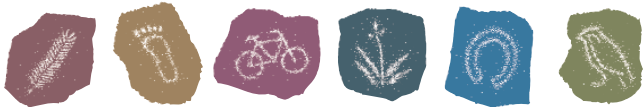
**Conservation/Interpretative Trail** - A 4-foot wide (minimum) hard-packed trail, meandering throughout the trail system to respond to Sonoran Desert habitat preservation, watershed protection, and cultural resources in the area.

**Equestrian Corridor** - A 4-foot wide (minimum) cleared portion of the river bottom to allow for equestrian access into and through the Corridor.

**Alternate Trail Route 'B'** - A primary trail proposed by a jurisdiction in the study area for future study and development.



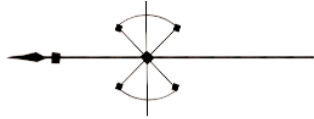
IMAGE OF MULTI-MODAL TRAIL SYSTEM  
ALONG A SHADED RIVER CORRIDOR





LEGEND

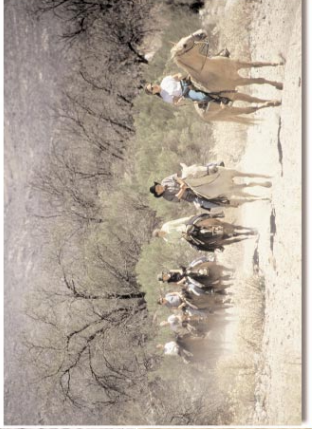
- ★ Gateway
  - A symbolic trail system entrance.
- 🌀 Primary Staging Area/Gateway
  - A trailhead with parking facilities and a rest area.
- 🌀 Secondary Staging Area
  - A smaller trailhead with scaled-back facilities.
- 🌐 Transit Connection Node
  - A public transit stop accessing the trail system at a neighborhood/transit/connector trail.
- Primary Trail
  - A two-way, 10- to 12-foot shared-use asphalt or concrete paved pathway.
- Secondary Trail
  - A two-way, off-road, 8-foot minimum decomposed granite or hard-packed trail linking to the primary trail.
- Neighborhood/Transit/Connector Trail
  - An 8-foot minimum paved trail, linking to neighborhoods, schools, transit stops and park-and-ride facilities.
- Conservation/Interpretive Trail
  - A 4-foot minimum decomposed granite or hard-packed trail, educating users about environmental and cultural resources in the area.
- Equestrian Corridor
  - A 4-foot minimum sandy wash bottom allowing equestrian access.
- Alternative Trail Route "B"
  - A pre-planned primary trail within the study area.
- Study Area Boundary
- 100-Year Floodplain



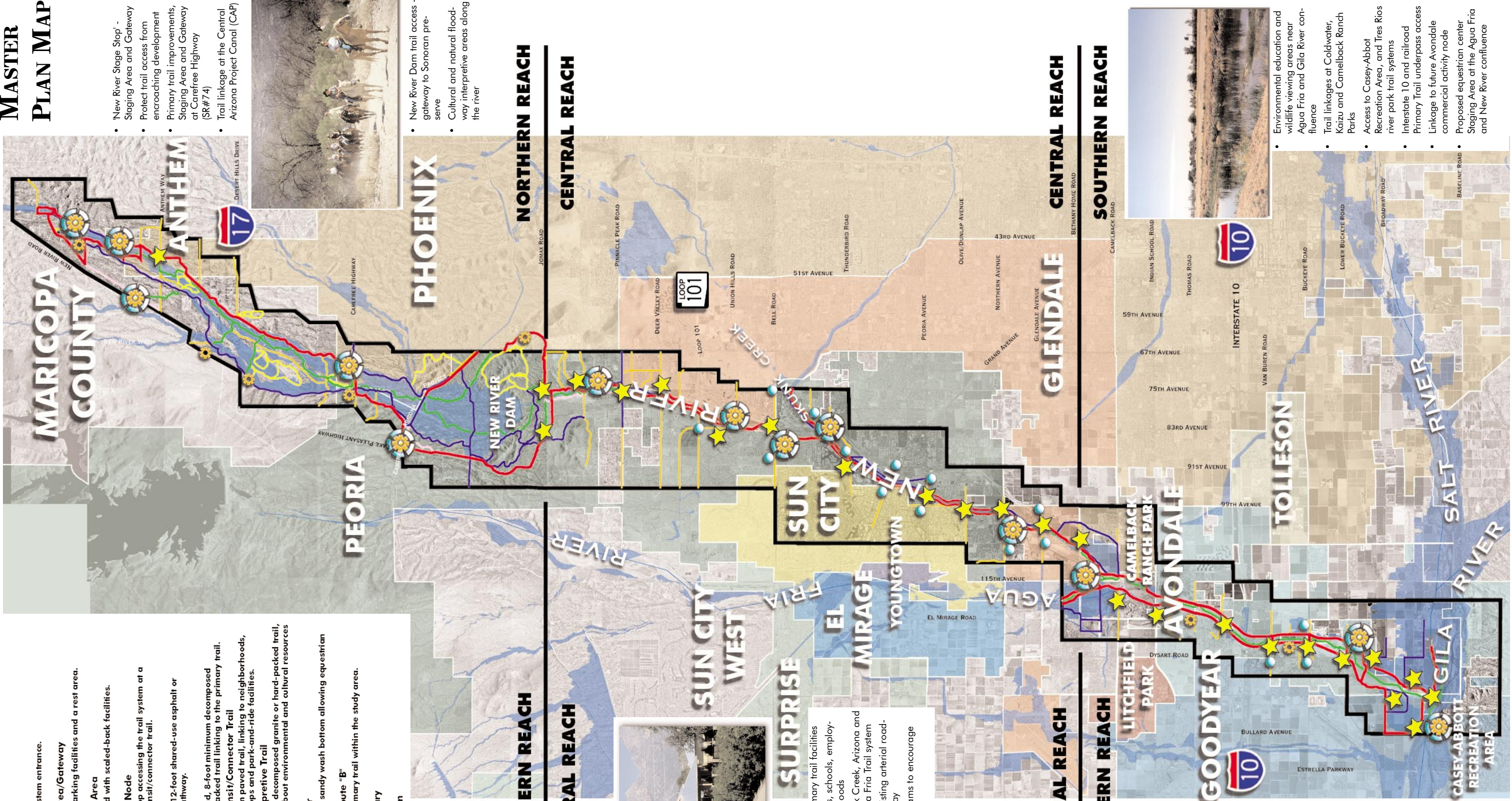
- Shared-use multi-modal primary trail facilities
- Trail linkages to urban parks, schools, employment centers and neighborhoods
- Primary Trail access to Skunk Creek, Arizona and Grand Canals, and the Agua Fria Trail system
- Trail underpass access at existing arterial roadway and railway rights-of-way
- Neighborhood watch programs to encourage safe trail use

MASTER PLAN MAP

- New River Stage Stop - Staging Area and Gateway
- Protected trail access from encroaching development
- Primary trail improvements, Staging Area and Gateway at Carefree Highway (SR#74)
- Trail linkage at the Central Arizona Project Canal (CAP)



- New River Dam trail access - gateway to Sonoran preserve
- Cultural and natural floodway interpretive areas along the river



- Environmental education and wildlife viewing areas near Agua Fria and Gila River confluence
- Trail linkages at Coldwater, Kaizu and Camelback Ranch Parks
- Access to Casey-Abbott Recreation Area, and Tres Rios river park trail systems
- Interstate 10 and railroad Primary Trail underpass access
- Linkage to future Avondale commercial activity node
- Proposed equestrian center Staging Area at the Agua Fria and New River confluence

